

ACNEM.

AIMA and **ACNEM** are proud to jointly host a free lecture for healthcare professionals and interested members of the public by visiting international expert, Dr Robert Verkerk, with a special introduction by Professor Avni Sali.

Moving Beyond the Existing 'Evidenced-Based Medicine' Paradigm

Dr Robert Verkerk

7.30pm-9.30pm, Monday 10th August **National Institute of Integrative Medicine (NIIM)** 759 Burwood Road, Hawthorn East, Melbourne

In this presentation, Dr Robert Verkerk will evaluate the methodologies that underpin anti-natural health viewpoints emanating from skeptic elements linked to orthodox, pharmaceutical-based medicine. In particular he will reference a group of highly influential UK doctors, academics and journalists. Dr Verkerk will outline weaknesses in the viewpoints espoused by these 'new fundamentalists' and will elaborate on the deficiencies of scientific methods presently used to evaluate the safety and efficacy of non-pharmaceutical modalities in healthcare. Finally, he will provide insights on ways forward, highlighting scientific, legal and policy-based strategies.

Please RSVP by Friday 7 August to AIMA: admin@aima.net.au (03) 8699 0582 or to ACNEM: mail@acnem.org (03) 9597 0363.

Dr Robert Verkerk is an internationally acclaimed expert in agricultural, environmental and health sustainability, environmental toxicology, nutritional science and risk assessment. In his current role as executive and scientific director of the Alliance for Natural Health, which he founded in 2002. Dr Verkerk has made substantial contributions to the development of more appropriate legal and scientific frameworks for the regulation of natural products used in healthcare using the principles of 'good science' and 'good law'.



He has a Masters Degree, a PhD and seven years post-doctoral research experience from Imperial College London. He is a regional fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, Patron of the College of Naturopathic Medicine, and acts as Scientific Advisor to both the American Association for Health Freedom and the Irish Association of Health Stores. He has contributed to the Risk Assessment Electronic Working Group of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses and regularly provides consultation responses to the European Commission, the European Food Safety Authority, the UK and other EU governments, the US Food & Drug Administration, as well as the Food and Agricultural Organization and the World Health Organisation.